

Applicants: Robert E. Canfield, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/404,076  
Filed: September 23, 1999  
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REMARKS

Claims 4, 27, 29, 31, 35-38, 40-46, and 48 are pending in the subject application. Claims 27, 29, 35, 38, 40, 43, 44, and 48 have been amended herein. Accordingly claims 4, 27, 29, 31, 35-38, and 40-46, and 48 are still pending in the subject application. Applicants maintain that these amendments do not involve any issue of new matter.

Applicants thank Examiner Nolan for his time and consideration during the August 23, 2005 telephone interview with Alan J. Morrison, applicants' undersigned attorney. On April 15, 2005, applicants filed an Amendment in response to the March 15, 2005 Office Communication issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. On July 8, 2005, Examiner Nolan issued an Office Communication indicating that applicants' April 15, 2005 Amendment was not fully responsive to the March 15, 2005 Office Communication and requesting that applicants' representative call the Examiner to schedule an interview to clarify any remaining issues. On August 8, 2005, applicants filed a Communication in response to the July 8, 2005 Communication asserting that the July 8, 2005 Communication was issued in error. On August 23, 2005, during the telephone interview, it was agreed that the July 8, 2005 Communication would be deemed responded to, and the pending claims would be in condition for allowance, if certain amendments to the claims were made. Accordingly, applicants have amended herein claims 27, 29, 35, 38, 40, 43, 44 and 48 in

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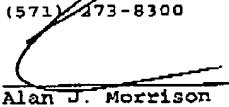
the manner agreed to, and respectfully request entry of this Amendment and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance in connection with the subject application.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorneys invite the Examiner to telephone them at the number provided below.

No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile on this date to:  
Commissioner for Patents,  
P.O. Box 1450  
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